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Hyland **Crest** outbreak declared

by CHAD INGRAM Editor

over

The COVID-19 outbreak that had been declared at Hyland Crest on March 12 was declared over on March 27.

That outbreak was declared after one staff member at the Minden long-term care home tested positive for the virus. Under guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, if a single resident or staff member of a long-term care facility has a laboratory-confirmed positive case of COVID-19, then an outbreak must be declared.

A March 27 press release from Haliburton Highlands Health Services indicated that repeated testing of residents, staff and essential caregivers had resulted in no further positive

"We are, as always, pleased with the vigilance that our staff maintain with the infection prevention and control protocols across our organization," HHHS president and CEO Carolyn Plummer said in that release. "This

see REPEATED page 2



The vest things in life

Minden Hills resident Russ Duhaime is one of several riders testing out a new, soon-to-be released protective vest for e-bikers, produced by local manufacturer, Tekrider. See story on Page 5. /DARREN LUM Staff

Sealing of floors not included in arena budget

by CHAD INGRAM Editor

McDonald Brothers Construction - the company that built the new Minden Hills arena and recreation centre - will receive a contract of nearly \$14,000 to seal floors in parts of the new building, something that was not included in the initial budget for the nearly \$13-million facility.

During a March 25 meeting, councillors received a staff report from community services director Craig Belfry regarding a contract for sealing floors in the arena stands, the upper level washrooms, and in the hallway between the arena and the gymnasium.

"I'm really disappointed that something like this was not included in the original bid, knowing that it needs to be done," said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell. "That makes absolutely no sense to me, so that's just my little rant for this item."

"To build on that comment, not having a [community services] director for upwards of a year, there's negative consequences, and I would say that's one of those, that probably would have been caught, if Craig had been around," said Mayor Brent Devolin.

Belfry was hired by Minden Hills in November last year, with his predecessor Mark Coleman resigning from the position in early 2020.

see SCHELL page 2





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from page 1

was clearly an important factor in the containment of this outbreak; and will continue to be an important factor for the duration of this pandemic. We are grateful for their perseverance through these challenging times."

Residents were kept isolated in their rooms for the duration of the outbreak.

"Staff members and essential caregivers, who provide important physical and emotional support to long-term care residents, will continue to partake in regular COVID-19

surveillance testing," the release from HHHS reads. "Rigorous infection prevention and control practices inside the home such as using personal protective equipment, hand washing, enhanced cleaning and disinfection will remain in place as they have been throughout the pandemic."

The outbreak was the second one at Hyland Crest since the start of the pandemic, with a first declared on Jan. 31, and declared over Feb. 14. In that instance, two essential caregivers had tested positive for the virus.

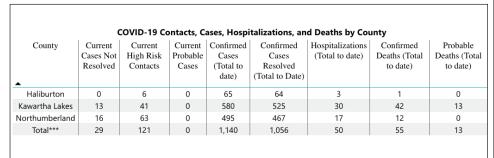
'No ice is safe ice,' remind OPP after Horseshoe Lake rescue

According to Haliburton Highlands OPP, on March 23, officers were dispatched to a call where a man had gone onto the ice on Horseshoe Lake in Minden Hills in an attempt to rescue his dog that had fallen through the ice. During his rescue attempt, the man also fell through the ice.

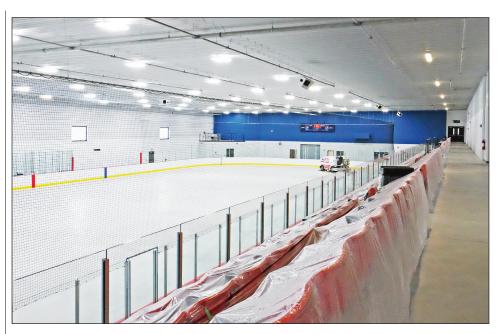
A local neighbour used a tin boat to assist both man and dog.

Minden Fire Rescue Service attended to assist all get off the lake safely.

"The public is reminded that no ice is safe ice," said Dan Collings, acting detachment commander for the Haliburton Highlands



As of a March 30 update from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit, Haliburton County had no confirmed cases of COVID-19 being reported, and six current high-risk contacts. One new case was reported in Northumberland County on March 30, and none in City of Kawartha Lakes. For more information visit www.hkpr.on.ca. /Screenshot from the HKPRDHU website



Sealing of floors in the arena stands, upper level washrooms and a hallway were not included in the construction of new Minden Hills arena by MacDonald Brothers Construction. / DARREN LUM Staff

Schell: 'That makes absolutely no sense'

from page 1

Staff received two bids on the floor-sealing contract - one from a Peterborough-based company for nearly \$30,000, and one from McDonald Brothers for \$13,722.62, plus

McDonald Brothers and Parkin Architects Limited in a joint bid were the sole bidders on the arena project. With an initial budget of \$12.5 million, McDonald Brothers came back to council in December of 2019 requesting an additional \$250,000, which was approved, bringing the budget to \$12.75 million.

Council has since approved tens of thousands of dollars' worth of additional items that were not included in the project's initial budget, including \$14,000 for way-finding signage; nearly \$10,000 for a projector and screen; \$15,000 for lobby furniture; \$60,000 for office furniture; a fitness room control panel for \$7,300; and additional security cameras for \$7,100. The painting of volleyball lines on the gym floor was also not included in the original budget, and McDonald Brothers was paid \$1,338 for that work.

McDonald Brothers was in charge of con-

tracting out sub-trades on the project, under what is referred to as an integrated project delivery framework. Under that framework, any savings found from tendering sub-trades was to be directed into a contingency account known as the "profit pool," with any monies in that account to be split between the builders and the township once the project was completed. The township's portion would have gone toward paying for some of these additional items, however, there was no

A snack bar was also not included in the project's initial design, something councillors have decided they want included in the facility. The budget for the snack bar is \$60,000, and during last week's meeting, council awarded the contract for its architectural design to Parkin Architects Limited for \$13,535, plus HST. The remainder of the \$60,000 is to be spent on electrical and mechanical work, millwork, doorways and

While the new facility is largely complete, it has remained closed to the public amid the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

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Haliburton County

Minden: S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena (55 Parkside St.) Haliburton: A.J. LaRue Community Centre (728 Mountain St.)

Northumberland County

Cobourg Community Centre (750 D'Arcy St.) Campbellford: Trent Hills Emergency Base (50 Doxsee Ave.)

City of Kawartha Lakes

Lindsay Exhibition (354 Angeline St. S) Fenelon Falls Community Centre (27 Veterans Way)

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Looking at locations for charging stations

by CHAD INGRAM Editor

The County of Haliburton and its four, lower-tier townships are considering funding applications and locations for electric vehicle charging stations.

County council received a report from climate change co-ordinator Korey McKay during a March 24 meeting. As McKay's report indicated, a federal funding program is making \$130 million available until 2024, covering 50 per cent of costs for charging infrastructure, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per port.

What are known as Level 2 charging stations come with one or two ports, the latter meaning that two vehicles can be charged simultaneously.

"Dual ports are more commonly installed since most costs are the same for single or dual port stations: equipment, installation and maintenance," the report read. " ... Charging infrastructure is to be installed in locations that are owned by the county or local municipalities to be eligible for funding. Ideal locations include those that can be used to charge corporate vehicles, employee vehicles and/or those that can be used for the community and tourists while using recreation facilities, or visiting local retail, restaurant and enter-

Six suggested locations included the Minden Hills arena; the Minden Hills township office; the Dysart et al branch of the Haliburton County Public Library; the Dysart municipal office/arena; the stretch of North Shore Road containing the Algonquin Highlands township office and other facilities; and Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce. The report suggested two ports per location save the Minden Hills township office, where four ports were recommended. Since the Minden Hills and County of Haliburton office properties are abutting, it was suggested this project would be a partnership between the two.

As for the funding framework, the report contained two options. One option entails using The Ivy Network, jointly owned by Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation. Under that option there would be no upfront costs for municipalities, but an average annual servicing fee of \$3,300 for each two-portal station. The report indicated service would range

between \$2,400 and \$4,000, depending on the location of the ing program options for the time being, nine and seven, charging stations.

The cost of electricity would come in addition to this, at approximately \$1 to \$2.50 per hour. This cost is typically recouped from the public via user fees. Installation would take place in summer or fall of this year.

A second option would entail the municipalities themselves owning the charging stations. Dual-port Level 2 charging stations cost between \$15,000 and \$25,000, with up to \$10,000 of this expenditure recoverable through the funding program. Ongoing service costs would be between \$500 and \$1,800 per unit per year, with the cost of electricity covered through user fees. Installation would take place between September of 2021 and September of 2023.

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and County Warden Liz Danielsen questioned the suggestion that the charging stations at the Minden Hills office be a partnership between the township and the county.

"The county itself might consider an alternate location for their own purposes," Danielsen said.

"The rationale behind that was the county has already purchased one plug-in vehicle, and may be making a recommendation shortly for another," said county planner and deputy chief administrative officer Charlsey White. "So, if we were to park here, w would automatically be taking two of those [portals] during the day, and then not on the weekend."

If Minden Hills begins converting its fleet to electric vehicles, it would then have two portals available to it, White

"So we thought two [stations] side-by-side and reduce the cost of the electrical hookup," she said, adding the stations could then be used by the public after work hours and on weekends.

"This metamorphosis ... it's going to happen in the next couple of years faster than most people are foreseeing," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin of the transition to electric vehicles. Devolin wondered if the county and municipalities could take advantage of both funding options.

"I'm just thinking in Minden Hills, I'm thinking of some other properties that would geographically dot them across the region," he said. "So, I guess I'm greedy in this. I think the need's coming that we're going to need a lot more than

McKay said the county had placeholders for both fund-

respectively.

"One station has two ports on each, so that's a lot of places to plug in," she said. "And I did get comments that even the amount we're suggesting is a lot for a rural area, but I do agree it's coming, and it's coming fast, but we do have both amounts reserved, so, technically, yes."

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt said in her township, there have been discussions about multiple locations where charging stations could potentially be installed.

"We have talked about putting one in the North Shore strip, because we would also like to move toward electric vehicles and be able to charge up for staff vehicles," Moffatt said. "But we also have the airport and we have Dorset, the village of Dorset is a very, very busy place. So we also have a number of opportunities and locations we'd like to look

Moffatt said Algonquin Highlands would be using modernization funding from the province for the purchase of charging stations.

"Is this a one-off, to get it off the ground, or will this be an ongoing collaboration through the county?" she asked.

McKay said there would be more rounds of funding applications before the current program ends in 2024. "So this is not a one shot, but it's a great opportunity to take advantage of while it's right here and reserved for us," she said.

White suggested municipalities each selecting a location, running a station for a year to see what the real costs are, and then going from there.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts said charging stations have been discussed by her lower-tier council, and wondered about issues of time limits, and whether or not a fee should be imposed or stations should be free to the public.

Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall said he knew of communities where as an incentive, businesses hand out vouchers for charging stations to customers.

Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said she thought there should be a user fee to at least cover the cost of electricity. "When you're charging, for example, at the community centre in Minden, somebody has to pay for that, and I don't think that should necessarily go across the whole tax base, when it could be a fee-for-use service," Schell said.

It was ultimately decided that the issue would be taken to each of the lower-tier council tables for discussion.



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EASTER WEEKEND

Minden Hills Council & Staff wish everyone a Safe and Happy Easter Holiday Weekend Please enjoy the holiday responsibly and within the Provincial guidelines. The Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Friday April 2nd and Monday, April 5th



(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

April 8 - Committee of the Whole Meeting April 29 - Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www. mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Request For Proposal #RDS 21-04 for the provision of One 4x4 Crew Cab, Chassis with Dual Rear Wheels and Aluminum Dump Box with Snow Plow. Submission Deadline is April 6, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Visit www.mindenhills/tenders/ for more information and to download the

WASTE SITES ON HOLIDAY HOURS

Minden Hills waste sites will follow Holiday Monday hours of operation on Easter Monday, April 5th. Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for hours of operation, or check the back of your landfill pass

NOTICE OF HYDRANT FLUSHING

Please note that mandatory Fire Hydrant flushing will be performed throughout the Minden Water Distribution System by April 5, 2021 to April 19, 2021

During this period please allow your water to run for 2-5 minutes to clear any discolouration through the home plumbing.

CANCELLED - NOTICE: **PUBLIC MEETING FEES AND CHARGES**

Please take notice the Public Meeting, scheduled for April 8, 2021, regarding proposed changes to the Township's Comprehensive Fees and Charges By-law is cancelled.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Having a babysitter can give you peace of mind and allows you to leave your child with someone you trust. Be sure your babysitter knows about fire safety and what to do if there is a fire.

BABYSITTER TRAINING

Many places offer babysitter classes and can be online training or in a classroom setting. Some schools and hospitals give training. These classes teach how to care for children, provide first aid and CPR training and what to do in the event of an emergency

Show the babysitter your home escape plan and make sure that the babysitter understands the fire safety plan. If you allow your babysitter to cook, make sure the babysitter is knowledgeable about kitchen safety. If the smoke alarm sounds make sure your babysitter knows to get out and call 911.

Remember always leave the phone number where you can be reached, cell phones make this easy and ensure that the babysitter knows the address of the home

WASTE REDUCTION TIP

Spring is around the corner! If you are cleaning out your closet, you can Scotch Line Landfill.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

We are currently looking for qualified individuals to join our team in the following positions

Building Inspector

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Summer Students for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca for more information and how to apply

Positive reaction to big-spending budget

by CHAD INGRAM

Editor

The provincial budget tabled by the Ford government last week contains \$186 billion in spending and years of planned deficits as the province seeks to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Titled Ontario Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy, the budget contains billions in assistance and is receiving largely positive responses from a number of organizations.

"Ontario's 2021 budget means supports for the hardest-hit sectors and communities, including right here in the Haliburton Highlands – much needed aid for women who have been deeply impacted by the pandemic, and initiatives that will create a strong economic rebound related to tourism, training, and vital infrastructure such as broadband," Andrea Strano, president of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, said in a statement.

Recognizing that the pandemic has disproportionately affected women, racialized communities, Indigenous people and those with disabilities, the budget calls for the creation of a task force on inclusive economic growth. It also includes a temporary job retraining tax credit, for those who've been left underemployed or unemployed and are retraining for a different job.

On the tourism front, the budget expands the Ontario Small Business Support Grant to include hotels, hunting and fishing camps, travel agencies and other tourism-related businesses that did not qualify for eligibility under the initial program. The \$100-million Ontario Tourism and Hospitality Small Business Support Grant program will provide one-time funding of \$10,000 to \$20,000 for hospitality-related businesses that didn't initially qualify.

The Ontario Tourism Recovery Program is a \$100-million initiative for established tourism businesses, designed to help them with costs related to restructuring, safe reopening, new marketing directions and partnership development amid the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The budget also includes a local tourism tax credit, designed to encourage Ontarians to check out Ontario destinations when public health guidelines indicate it is safe to do so.

A \$20-million 2021 Reconnect Festival and Event Program is designed to assist organizations creating COVID-19-responsible events.

The budget contains \$2.8 billion in spending on broadband projects, welcome news to the board of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network, owned by the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus. EORN recently announced that Rogers Communications was the winning bidder on its cell gap project, a \$300-million undertaking that will upgrade 300 communications towers in eastern Ontario, and construct 300 new ones. The province contributed \$71 million to that project, and EORN is now looking to the provincial and federal governments for \$200 million each for

its Gig project, which would bring Gig internet, with its incredibly fast speeds, to the region. It's estimated that project will cost between \$1.2 billion and \$1.6 billion.

"Reliable broadband will be key to the economic recovery from COVID-19 for rural communities," said Murray Jones, warden of the County of Peterborough and chairman of the EORN board in a release, in response to the budget. "The government's commitment today has the potential to finally bridge the digital divide and give people across Ontario the critical connectivity we need to succeed and thrive.

"The Gig project is a comprehensive solution to fix broadband for a generation," Jones added. "We look forward to learning more details about the funding in today's budget and we remain hopeful that it will mean positive news for the Gig project."

Nearly \$7 billion is budgeted for spending directly related to the pandemic, including \$1 billion for vaccines, \$1.8 billion in COVID-19 relief funding for hospitals to help care for patients and deal with surgical backlogs, and \$650 million in relief funding for long-term care homes.

For families with children, a one-time COVID-19 child benefit payment will double from \$200 per child in previous rounds of funding to \$400 per child and \$500 per child for children with disabilities. There is also increased funding to assist lower- and mid-income families with childcare costs.

"Our government continues to protect people by investing in our health care system, supporting the vaccine rollout plan, and fixing long-term care," Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP and Ontario Infrastructure Minister Laurie Scott said in a release. "Making important investments in ways that will directly impact families, jobs, and small businesses is how we will get the province back on track to economic recovery and defeat the COVID-19 virus."

One major criticism of the budget is that it does not include legislation for paid sick leave, something that's been called for by numerous advocacy groups and the Opposition NDP amid the continuing COVID-19 crisis.

Ontario ran a \$38.5-billion deficit in 2020, and the deficit for the 2021/22 fiscal year is expected to be approximately \$33 billion. Prior to the pandemic, the Ford government had aimed to get back to balanced budgets by 2023, but given the wide-reaching ramifications of the health crisis, it's expected it will be at least the 2029/30 fiscal year before that's a possibility. The province will have half a trillion dollars in debt by 2024.





Made-in-Minden product coming for e-bike users

by DARREN LUM Times Staff

Minden Hills-based company Tekrider is using its decades of expertise manufacturing protective equipment for dirt bikers and snowmobilers to create a protective vest to keep people using e-bikes safe.

Over the last several weeks, the company has created 10 prototypes during the research and development phase of a yet-to-be named vest with similar attributes to their dirt and snow protective Tek Vests. The alterations for e-bike users included reducing the overall size of the vest for mobility and it was designed for the riding position. There will also be greater ventilation, options for hydration and the addition of rows and columns of webbing (often seen on backpacks and military vests), so people can add attachments to hold a mobile phone or a toolkit.

Owner Steve Brand said this new product is directed at protecting older riders, who may be out of shape or haven't ridden in a while and are choosing to ride an e-assist bike.

"We just made phone calls and just went online and [learned] about these 66-year-old people going over the handlebars and breaking six ribs. With the e-assist it doesn't require a level of fitness ... anybody can hop on these things and triple the speed of a pedal bike. They're riding them in the winter because they're not going to Florida. They fall off the track and go over bars. There's lots of accident stories out there," he said.

The cost will be in line with Tekrider's other products and is expected to start close to \$400. Sizes will range from children's to XXXL and will be ready to purchase online through Tekrider on May 1. Vests will be shipped mid-May.

There will be two models. One is zippered, and the other is a pullover version, which offers the greatest protection and is suitable for people with previous mid-body injuries.

There are adjustment straps to fine-tune the fit, and there

After 24 years in business protecting people with their Tek Vests in power sports such as snowmobiling and off-road riding, Brand said it didn't take much effort for his team to shift to protecting e-bike users.

"We're already dressing human bodies in various power sport configurations and this is really no different," he said.

His customers' testimonials over the years are proof of their products effectiveness.

Brand directs people to the company's Facebook page to learn of a story related to a user who survived a crash. Tekrider's focus is on protecting vulnerable parts of the body.

"Nobody covers as much body area as we do and we focus on the lower left and right abdomen area. I call it the engine room. The area immediately under the rib cage," Brand said. He adds current protective equipment ignores the soft tissue area close to the waist and focuses on protecting the sternum, which he said isn't as vulnerable.

'We have since day one recognized that covering the areas down to the waist line are way more important. That's where the engine room is. That's where the vital organs are. Snap off three ribs and they break inwards and then you have internal organ damage so we've been on top of that for decades,"

He said the new product is part of a move that helps the company to diversify, ensure year round employment, and will meet the demands of the growing industry of e-assist

"That industry dwarfs the power industry, so there could be a scenario where we're actually producing more vests for the bicycle world than our traditional projects, which will be fine because that means we've got year-round jobs, and [didn't] have to lay anybody off in the past few years. The more diversified our product portfolio is, the stronger position we'll be in to attract more people because we have to grow," he

According to Brand, the company was also motivated to see NEW page 8

This product is expected to be ready for direct sale from Tekrider in May. For more information see tekrider.com. /DARREN LUM Staff









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Mountains on matchsticks

CHAD INGRAM

Editor

UNICIPAL TREASURERS, other staff members, councillors and, well, I'm just going to go ahead and say everybody, probably, must be relieved that another budget season has come to pass.

And while the budgeting process can be mind-numbing to observe, it is also a window into the increasing complexities and changing proverbial landscape facing municipal governments.

Traditionally, the County of Haliburton and its four lower-tier

municipalities have had low taxes, low debt and low services. The latter is not a criticism of quality. What I mean is that in this community we don't have garbage pickup, public transit and other services you would find in more urban areas.

But that long-time trend is beginning to change.

In recent years, the county and some townships have begun taking on debt – taking out loans – to complete projects, most notably roads work. And this is fine. In fact, carrying some degree of debt can actually be helpful. For the past decade or so, it's been common to see the county and its lower tiers passed over by the provincial government for grants. That's because the county and its municipalities are all in pretty healthy financial shape. They have relatively low debt loads and relatively healthy reserve balances. It's become a mantra for the provincial government

regardless of its partisan colour
that if a municipality's books are good, then that municipality must not need any help.

So, if you carry some debt, your chances of getting approved for provincial grants actually improve.

One of the interesting things about

municipal governments is that, unlike their federal and provincial overlords, they cannot run deficits. It's illegal, prohibited by the Municipal Act.

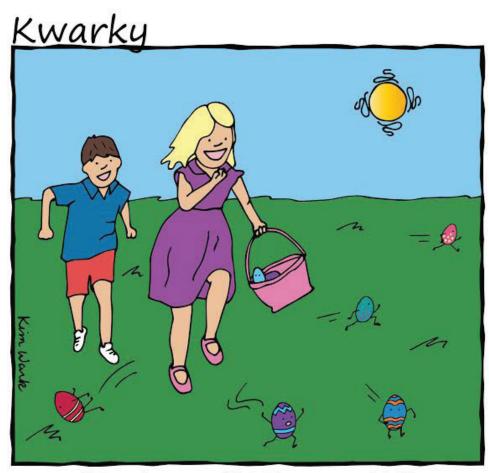
So as pressures mount, particularly regarding aging infrastructure, borrowing is becoming more common. In 2019, the County of Haliburton borrowed \$3 million to complete some road projects, including a reconstruction of part of County Road 1. The 2021 Minden Hills draft budget included some \$7 million in borrowing for public works projects, although councillors carved

away at that figure, including removing a \$2.1 million loan for the reconstruction of Bobcaygeon Road. Two councillors in particular – Pam Sayne and Bob Carter – were adamant throughout the process that the township not become too heavily reliant on debentures,

accruing loan repayments and interest that would come back to bite taxpayers down the proverbial road.

With retiring baby boomers, and now, the COVID-19 pandemic causing the county's year-round population to grow, there will be greater demand for services and greater strain on existing infrastructure. However, because most of these "new" year-round residents have been long-time, tax-paying seasonal residents, it means the tax base will not increase at the same rate as these pressures. This will make borrowing more enticing for municipal governments moving forward.

While some level of debt can be helpful, municipalities must be careful not to go overboard on borrowing, not to build mountains on matchsticks.



"Run for your life! It's a genocide!"

Sheds, then and now

HESE DAYS when a young outdoorsman talks about shed hunting, they are referring to the wonderfully pleasant pastime of walking through the fields and forests looking for deer antlers that were discarded by bucks sometime around January.

Bless their hearts.

The older outdoorsman imagines something quite different, however. And it is the stuff horror movie franchises are made of.

Shed hunting for us older outdoorsmen is the unfortunate annual act of having to

go into the garden shed to search for things like canoe paddles, fishing nets, outboard motors, gas tanks and personal floatation devices.

As such, shed hunting is one of the more dangerous hunting sports. In fact, it can sometimes get downright violent and devolve into a life-or-death confrontation.

Last year, for instance, I barely survived an attack by

a predatory garden rake while searching for the second oar to my tin boat. This only happened because I got sloppy and dropped my guard when I caught a glimpse of the oar in the far corner behind a veil of spider webs. That turned out to be an almost fatal mistake. You see, when I advanced, I stepped on an unseen rake that was waiting in malevolent ambush, which caused it to launch upward and smack me right between the eyes. Then I stumbled forward and did it again. The third time was just bad luck.

Luckily, I was able to regain my senses and retreat out of striking range so I could play dead for a few minutes. Then, I got up and immediately raised my arms and made myself look big while slowly talking to the rake and backing up to the house. Needless to say, I rowed in circles for the next few days.

On a subsequent foray into the deep and dark jungle that is my shed, I had a close call with a new and working lawn mower – and I won't lie to you, those things scare the living crap out of me. Fortunately, this time I somehow managed to keep my wits about me. For I knew full well, from many previous experiences, that if you leave them alone, they will generally leave you alone – if you are lucky, for an entire summer. Even knowing this, it still took all

my resolve to find the boater's safety kit that I was hunting for. And I brushed up against a can of stain and brush to do so.

All this is to say, an outdoorsman's shed is also full of horror and unsolved mysteries.

Last spring, for instance, I found the bait bucket from the previous ice fishing season and it still had bait inside it. The bucket, it turns out, was hiding behind a big menacing

wheelbarrow

Let me stop here and say it is not my intention to frighten younger outdoorsmen who have no experience with sheds of their own. All I mean to do is show them that caution and experience are required. For in every older outdoorsman's shed there are terrible things designed to make a grown man's stomach churn – in that case, a wheelbarrow.

Right now, I am steadying my nerves for another foray into our shed. I tried to take a smarter approach this year. I asked Jenn if she might go into the shed and fetch the rake and wheelbarrow for me. It would have worked too had she not ran into the bait bucket I lost this year.



STEVE GALEA *Beyond 35*

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

The time of awakening

THE SPRING forest is deceiving.

This is supposed to be a wonderful time of awakening. The sounds and movement of new life should be exploding all around me.

Yet it is sleepy and silent back here. No sounds and no movements, except for a wrinkled brown beech leaf fluttering in the breeze, refusing to let go of the branch that stopped feeding it months ago.

It's a dull, cool day with heavy cloud blocking the sun's awakening rays. Recent temperatures have been springlike, but something has pushed the

pause button on actual spring.



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

There are a few signs of the new season trying to make an entrance. Brown patches of dead wet leaves widen within a shrinking blanket of snow and ice. They grow daily, gradually reducing all traces of winter's whiteness.

The retreating snow reveals the wreckage of winter. Dead branches, not strong enough to withstand winter winds, litter the forest floor. They are nature's decomposable litter, so unlike the coffee cups and beer cans littering the ditches of the nearby

There are larger victims of winter - one or two fallen whole trees. It is sad to see their lives ended.

We sometimes underestimate the importance of our trees. They provide food to eat, wood for building and clean air to breathe.

The world already has lost one-third of its forests and the World Wildlife Federation estimates we are losing the equivalent of 27 football fields every minute.

The fallen branches and downed trees tell us about increasingly frequent and stronger winds. Over the past couple years, I've noticed more windy days and stronger winds.

My observations are not scientific but a couple of years back the journal Nature Climate Change published a study saying that wind speeds in much of North America have grown faster since 2010. It said that in less than a decade the global average wind speed has increased to 7.4 miles per hour from 7.0.

There is little wind back here today and I expected to be treated to all the joyous sounds and sights of full spring.

I realize that I am getting ahead of myself. It is still March, a month when minus 20 temperatures and snow depths of two to three feet were not uncommon. Extreme cold and deep snow are not so common in recent times, but it is still March.

But April, the genuine spring month in this part of the world, is at the door. This forest will be filled with its sounds and sights any day now.

Actually, if I look more closely there are signs of spring beginning to show. In one of those damp brown patches the tip of a plant has broken through the soil. It is reddish in colour and I guess it is skunk cabbage. Trillium shoots and others will join them soon.

I see a moist spot on a tree drilled by woodpeckers and know it immediately as the best sign of spring. I run a finger across the moist spot, then press it to my lips. It is sticky and sweet – maple sap which local syrup producers have been collecting and boiling down since early March.

Off to the left of the tree is a large animal track in the snow. A closer look tells me it is a moose track, which makes me smile because it tells me a moose has returned from its wintering area.

Every late fall and every spring I see a track, or a moose itself, heading off to its winter or summer range.

So yes, spring is deceiving. Today at least. Just because we can't see or hear it doesn't mean the annual miracle of rebirth and renewed life is not under way.

Very soon the blown down twigs on the forest floor will be back in the trees, part of nests the birds build for their soon-to-born young.

I climb the hilltop from which I can get a good view of the lake. The colour of the ice dispels any doubts about spring's arrival. A week or so ago it was white, then grey and now a dark blue-black.

Within days the lake will be pure blue and sparkling and this forest surrounding it will be alive with the celebrations of spring.

letters to the editor

Let's help naturalize Toronto

We are used to folks from Toronto, and other urban areas, expressing their support for protecting and maintaining the quality of the lands, waters, vegetation and wildlife of Haliburton County. When was the last time we have been able to assist similar efforts within that big city, just a couple of hours or so down the road?

Well friends and neighbours, wait no longer, that time has finally come! "The City is seeking feedback on the natural garden exemption process and wants your input." The notice makes no specification restricting comment to city property owners. Stating one's place of residence is thereby optional. We have all of this publication date of March 31, up to 11:59pm, to respond by internet access (MLSFeedback@toronto.ca).

Additional to the obvious visual beauty they present to the gardener and those passing by, natural gardens positively affect residential rain run-off, homeowner carbon footprint (less use of power mowers, trimmers and blowers), air and noise pollution, pollinator and other species habitat, native plant proliferation, and the climate crisis in general. Within a densely urbanized area like Toronto these gardens will also help alleviate the all-too-common disconnect between residential life and the natural environment. considered to be the causal factor resulting in a social/psychological impairment, increasingly affecting children, recently named nature-deficit disorder.

Here's why our help may be of value. The key concern is that the bylaw places an undue burden upon those simply desiring and willing to convert a greater portion of their property into a natural garden. Upon the city receiving a complaint about such a garden, an inspection will follow which may lead to the homeowner being required to apply for a permit of exemption to the bylaw's 20-centimetre (eight-inch) maximum height limit for lawn grasses. This requirement is in conflict with a natural garden, as it is based

upon an outdated and arbitrarily determined permissible height tolerance for neighbourhoods solely consisting of residential lawns

The bylaw also contributes to unnecessary complaints and confusion by including poorly defined and undefined words and phrases such as "grass," "good repair," "well maintained," "managed," and "nuisance."

Note that upon being denied an exemption, the property owner may appeal through a process involving a fee. Possible annual complaints, even in the case of there being an approved exemption in a prior year, may start this exemption process once again. Overall, the result appears to discourage one from even considering planting a natural garden.

Finally, the exemption requirement conflicts directly with the city's own pollinator protection strategy, and also its garden contest.

So, why not have our say? A lengthy response is optional and not necessary. If we wish to support an increase in natural gardens in Toronto, all we have to do is state that "the city should remove the natural garden permit requirement." A recommendation for addressing the arbitrary wording to reduce overall confusion would be helpful also.

Some readers may still be wondering, why do this? I'll let the following quote attributed to Chief Seattle provide the answer:

"All things are connected like the blood that unites us. We do not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.'

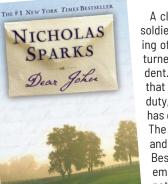
Thank you for considering this opportunity to assist all of us.

> John Gibb Minden



On the rise

Guenter Horst captured this image of the moon shining through tree branches.



Authors to Actors

A classic story of love and loss, Dear John is the tale of a soldier gone to war, the woman he's left behind, and the testing of their love by fate and circumstance. John is a rebelturned-soldier who falls in love with Savannah, a college student. Their relationship quickly grows into the kind of love that leaves Savannah waiting for John to finish his tour of duty, and John wanting to settle down with the woman who has captured his heart. The world, however, has other plans. The film version stars Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried, and the novel by Nicolas Sparks was on the New York Times Bestseller list in 2007. Dear John is a heartwarming and emotional rollercoaster that will leave you gasping, and it's not the only adaptation of Spark's work. Check out the new Nicholas Sparks movie collection from Haliburton County Public Library today, and see if it's the books or the movies that capture your heart.



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New safety vests available in May

from page 5

add a new product because of how the federal government moved to buy personal protective equipment from overseas manufacturers rather than Canadian companies such as Tekrider, who had received approval and altered operations to adjust for the change.

"Top marks for the government for moving fast in setting us up in the first place, but failing grades for not following through. They said they were going to never again [be] a slave to overseas production. They quickly dropped that thought," he said.

Current product lines, which include medical PPE, and the potential for the newest vest to do well have Brand looking to growth. He said the company is in the process of adding a building. He believes with more people moving up here that the labour pool can only

Although the current target market is for older riders who commute, there is an eye toward a future with trail riders using their vest. Brand said the company sent out vests to two competitive riders for feedback, as part of this potential direction.

Retired Minden Hills resident Russ Duhaime, 62, is among the test riders, who appreciated the vest following a winter ride in Snowden a few weeks ago.

"Super comfortable," Duhaime told the Times. "It's light and fits well without restricting movements. I could hardly tell I was wearing anything without restricting."

Brand said it's important the public knows the Minden Hills-based company sources all their materials from Canada and the U.S., except for the zipper pulls, which come from

"If we can take it from North America, we take it from North America," he said.



New safety vests from Tekrider are geared toward e-bike riders. /DARREN LUM

Snap, crackle, pop

LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

T DOESN'T take much effort for my body to make sounds during certain movements. During a squat it seems to be my right knee that crackles but the left knee is silent. Turning my head left and right provides a bit of cracking sound. I'm not someone who regularly cracks my knuckles. I think the last time I did that was

back in public school when everyone would compete for the loudest crack or pop. I know there are some people who often "crack" knuckles, elbows, necks, etc. Pick a joint, any joint. Actually, I just lifted my arms overhead and my right shoulder provided a nice popping sound. That did feel good.

As concerning as a snap, crackle or pop can sound if there is no pain with the

Benjamin Moore

sound, joint noise is OK. One reason for the sound is the compression of nitrogen bubbles that naturally occur in the joints. Nitrogen is a component of the synovial fluid that lubricates the joint during movement. The cracking sound is the nitrogen gas being released from the joint. This action is called cavitation.

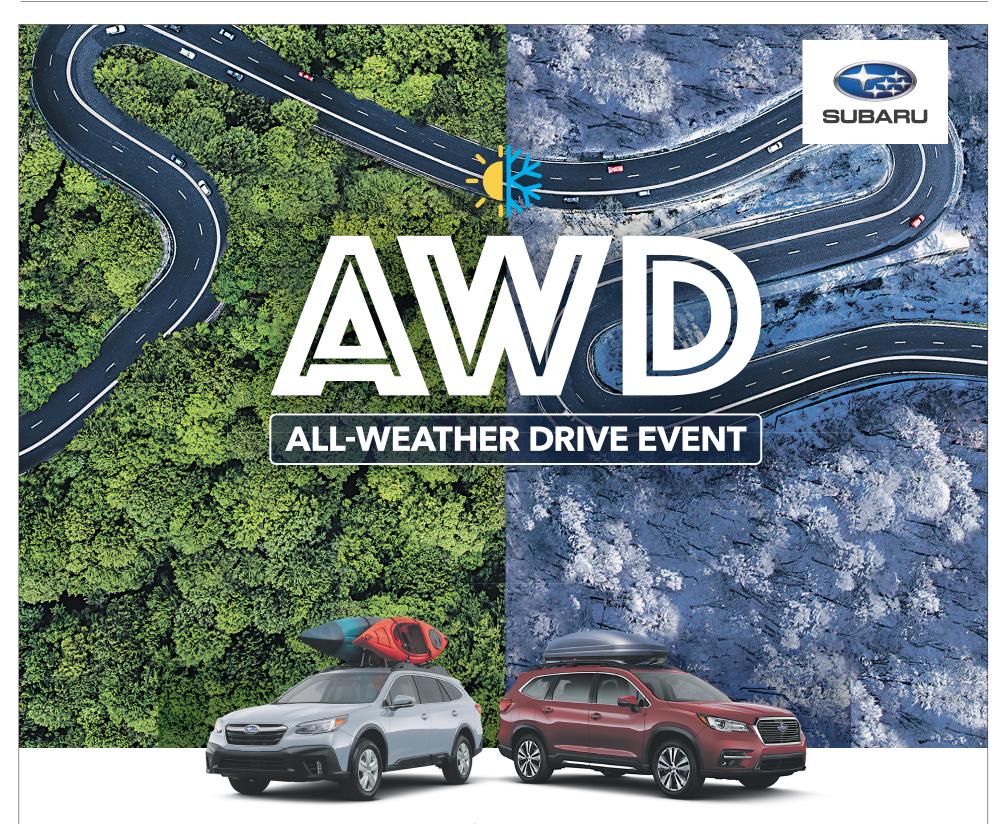
Tight muscles from activity can cause joint noises. The tightness causes an increase in rubbing and friction around the bone. Usually in this situation gentle stretches can decrease or alleviate the sounds. Apparently, the shoulder is the noisiest joint because it has so many moving parts. Guess I'll try some shoulder stretches!

Aging is another reason for joint noise (of course it is). As we get older cartilage wears away leaving rougher surfaces so there is more sound created during movement. Again, if there is no pain associated with the sound then there is nothing to be concerned about. It's part of the natural process. The best remedy is movement. The saying, "motion is lotion" applies here. The more we move the more the body lubricates itself. If you find yourself feeling or sounding

creaky get up and get moving!

Something to think about!

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.



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Four-month interval between vaccine doses under review

by SUE TIFFIN

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a March 25 meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board.

In Ontario, the interval between first and second doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines has been extended to up to four months after the National Advisory Committee on Immunization updated guidance on dosing intervals, but the decision is under review.

"That is currently under review, we're waiting to hear whether there's any change in direction in that area," said Carolyn Plummer, HHHS president and CEO.

When asked about her thoughts on the issue – the manufacturing guidelines for the Pfizer vaccine recommend a second dose at 21 days, while the Moderna vaccine guidelines recommend a second dose at 28 days and some research has suggested the delay results in immunocompromised people being less protected – Plummer said the question was challenging.

"This is a challenging question to respond to; on the one hand, we certainly understand the province's drive to have as

many people in receipt of the first dose as possible, but at the same time we are actively advocating in concert with other health service providers across the province for the recommended dosing interval from the pharmaceutical manufacturers in order to ensure maximum protection," she said.

Dr. Steve Ferracuti said staff had shared concern with the decision that the interval between the first and second dose of vaccine for staff has been extended to 16 weeks.

"The chiefs of staff at the regional hospitals have made some entreaties to our local medical officer of health and to the province on that regard," said Ferracuti. "As it stands the interval is currently slated to be 16 weeks."

On March 29, CityNews reported the vaccine schedule had been revised for some immunocompromised people, including transplant and certain cancer patients.

Operational deficit of \$530,000

Haliburton Highlands Health Services is receiving reimbursement for additional expenses required during the pandemic, though a significant deficit remains.

"While this continues to be a very challenging year with the ongoing pressures due to the pandemic and our collective ef-



That is currently under review, we're waiting to hear whether there's any change in direction in that area.

- CAROLYN PLUMMER, HHHS PRESIDENT AND CEO



forts in responding, we're pleased to report that our cash flow issues have significantly improved now that we're receiving reimbursements," said David O'Brien, reporting on behalf of the finance committee which met on March 22.

O'Brien said reimbursements for eligible expenses up to the end of November 2020 have been received, as well as funding for lost revenues for long-term care up to the end of January 2021.

'As a result, HHHS's operational deficit is about \$530,000 as of January 31, of which \$275,000 relates to lost revenues as a result of COVID-19 service closures in hospital and community programs, and about \$255,000 is related to ongoing staffing pressures ... resulting in increased cost for overtime, sick time and benefits."

The COVID-19 expense reimbursement program has been extended until March 31, 2021, but O'Brien said "we're anticipating to still be in a significant deficit operating position at the year end. We're working with our funder to resolve these issues and are hopeful that we will be funded for our revenue losses as well as our operating pressures and onetime costs."

"Regardless of these financial pressures, we remain committed to the measures we have taken to keep our residents, patients, clients, staff and community safe," said O'Brien. He said they would continue advocating for appropriate funding to address shortfalls.

Virtual primary care clinic to open

The Haliburton County Virtual Primary Care Clinic will launch next month, using the telemedicine suite, staff, equipment and technology already in place in the community.

"This clinic will provide primary care to patients in Haliburton County who currently do not have a local primary

see CLINIC page 11





Clinic provides services of a family doctor

from page 10

care provider," said Plummer in her CEO report. "Services will include acute and episodic care, chronic disease management, and other services normally accessed through a family physician, and will also connect patients with local and regional services such as specialists. The county's unattached patients will be able to receive ongoing care at this clinic with a consistent physician and the clinic will work with Health Care Connect and Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team to transition patients to a local family physician as they become available."

At first, the clinic is planned to operate for two-and-a-half days per week, increasing depending on need.

"It's intended to help fill a gap in the community and give people that local primary care support until such time as they can transition over to the family health team as capacity there becomes available," said Plummer in the meeting. "We're very excited to be able to offer that.'

More information – including details on how patients can book the services - will be rolled out in the next few weeks.

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Purple with purpose

Epilepsy Awareness Day or Purple Day was recognized by Archie Stouffer Elementary School students, at back, from left, Jaylynn, Nixon, educator Ms. Whiteway, Chloe, Cara and McKenna while, at front, Josette, Eliana, Jozef, Millie and Cora wear purple at the Minden school on Friday, March 26. This is an annual day that is recognized around the world to show support for people with the neurological disorder epilepsy and help to raise awareness. Canada is the only country in the world that officially recognizes March 26 as Purple Day since Purple Day Act was implemented in 2012. /Photos submitted by Mike Gervais

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Fun By The Numbers

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Answers on page 16



ASES students, at back, from left, Bella, Serenity, Olivia, Emmie with teacher Ms. Norris with peers, at front, Quinn and Alllie wearing purple.



Students, at back, from left, Jack, Jayla, Allie, Sarah, Kate, Mya and Evelyn, who stand with kneeling peers at front, from left, Kaylee, Holland and Moira.



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Gemmill talks booking vaccines, organized sports and the four-month delay

by SUE TIFFIN

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference held March 24 with Dr. Ian Gemmill, acting medical officer of health.

Cases decreasing again locally

Looking at the epidemiological report, Gemmill said there had been about 13 cases per 100,000 population across the local region in the previous week, which was lower than the week before. Outbreaks were contained to "minor, small workplaces" rather than long-term care homes.

"We're actually stabilizing a bit in the incidences, although as you know, anything can change at any moment," said Gemmill.

About half of the cases reported recently were in Northumberland County, and about a quarter each in City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, with the highest group by age those who are younger than 20, which Gemmill said is a "tiny bit worrying," noting that there were fewer cases by outbreak but more by close contact either through work, transportation or gatherings

"What it means to me is that I think that for some of these cases people weren't as careful as they could or should have been to be able to prevent themselves from becoming infected," he said.

At press time, there were no unresolved cases of COVID-19 being reported in Haliburton County, with nine current highrisk contacts. A second variant of concern reported locally has, like the first case, been moved to another health unit region.

"Upon further assessment, the variant of concern (VOC) identified this week in Haliburton County is being removed from our count and transferred to another health unit region where the individual resides fulltime," said the health unit in response to the Echo asking for further details about it. "It appears the person acquired the infection while living there as well. In Ontario, it is the practice to report all positive COVID-19 cases (and variants) in the region where people's permanent residence is located."

Vaccination clinic appointments based on vaccine supply

"The provincial system is working, it's not without its frustrations and glitches but it is working," said Gemmill.

Gemmill said there appears to be a glitch on the website in which vaccination clinics do not appear, but he said that's part of how the system was designed. Appointments are limited by vaccine supply, and when the available appointments have been booked, the site no longer shows that vaccination clinic in the booking system.

"I guess that's to save people time so they're not looking through and scrolling, and trying to find something only to be disappointed when there's nothing there," said Gemmill, noting those booking appointments will be redirected on the site to the next available clinic.

He said while the province had announced the previous week they would expand the ap-



The provincial system is working, it's not without its frustrations and glitches but it is working.

— DR. IAN GEMMILL



pointments available to younger ages, which had been a plan originally intended to begin the first week of April, the HKPRD health unit is still working on the 80-and-older group and was, as of last week, booking appointments for those 75 and older.

"We don't have the vaccine to be able to accommodate our group completely yet, we're still working through that," said Gemmill. He noted that because there are other areas with higher number of cases they were getting more vaccines, but said our area shouldn't be "penalized" with less vaccines for having lower case numbers. The health unit is asking for more vaccine and is hoping to expand the number of appointments that are available

Home care recipients booking

"People in home care are in Phase 1, and they should be done like, now, they're eligible," said Gemmill.

The health unit is asking those who receive

home care to call the health unit, which can provide a link to the provincial booking system that allows those who are not yet in the general age group being vaccinated to book their appointments.

Gemmill said the vaccine advisory committee is looking at ways to get the vaccine to those who might be homebound, perhaps via EMS or a mobile unit, but the vaccine currently available isn't fridge-safe and doesn't travel well.

Four-month delay between shots

"I was a supporter of a longer interval right from the beginning, even when the province's policy was, get everybody their two doses as fast as you can," said Gemmill.

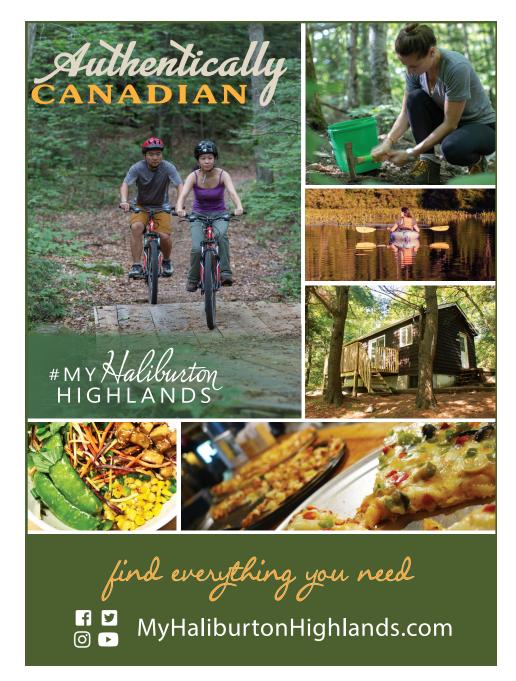
The issue starts, he said, with how the pharmaceutical companies do their studies, noting studies were set up with three weeks and four weeks between shots, thinking that shots would be given as quickly as possible.

"We do know, from our experience with other vaccines, is that giving a vaccine too late is never a problem. We don't lose anything. What you lose is that you don't get the full protection for awhile but you do get some protection."

A second vaccine given too soon however, won't be effective and is a wasted dose, he said.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) stated that the vaccine interval should be respected as much as possible based on the data they had, Gemmill said, and then they came to the conclusion based on more data that the booster shot de-

see VACCINE page 16





Vaccine not yet at local pharmacies

from page 15

lay could be extended.

"When this new guidance came from [NACI], Ontario took a look at it and said, 'hmm, a couple of advantages here.' If we can get one dose into everybody, that means that everyone is treated as fairly as possible, still going through the priority lists. Everybody will have the chance to get one dose before we start immunizing people with two doses. 'Why's that guy

get two doses when I've never had a dose?' I think that's what they were [doing], not trying to create that kind of problem. It's an issue of fairness to some degree. The other thing is, and I think this is very smart, if you can get one dose into the entire population, you're going to have better control of this virus, the virus can't circulate as well than if you have two doses in half the population."

Population protection won't be complete until everyone has had two doses, Gemmill said. He said some vaccines, like the HPV vaccine, are more effective if given with more time in between doses.

"The danger is, what happens in that period between dose one and dose two, which is the full protection," he said. "And that's why I keep saying to people, you still have to be cautious, you still have to use your personal measures, and we'll give you new guidance once the whole population has received their second dose."

To solidify new guidance after vaccination, Gemmill said evidence of protection is needed.

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Sat. Oct. 9	8am-11:30am	Scotch Line Landfill

Attendees must present a valid MH Waste Site Access Pass. Leaking containers and containers with unidentified fluids

cannot not be accepted at events. Please place leaking containers into a sealed container and apply a label.



For a full list of accepted materials, please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill.

Local pharmacies not yet carrying vaccine

The AstraZeneca vaccine, which is fridge-stable and is available in about 300 pharmacies in other regions in Ontario is not yet available at pharmacies locally. It might be rolled out to more pharmacies if the pilot project is successful.

"Are any of them going to be in HKPR? I hope so, but have not been told so," said Gemmill. "If it doesn't happen in the first go-round, I'm certain that when the second expansion occurs ... it just gives additional options, additional accessibility choices for people."

Gemmill said he presumed the province would adjust its distribution schedule for the vaccine as they received more of it. He welcomed the opportunity for vaccines to be available at pharmacies as well.

Recommendations for parents signing kids up in organized sports

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As summer and more opportunity for organized sports approaches, Gemmill was asked if there might be a sport he would recommend over another, based on risks.

"Go for the sports where you're not having that close interpersonal contact with high energy output that then spews droplets and virus to the people you may be in contact with,"

He gave two different examples to clarify his point.

"The winter sport is hockey," said Gemmill. "Now people who are playing hockey, and I've seen too many outbreaks that involve hockey teams, and this is why I'm bringing it up as an example. I've seen it on many occasions. I know how popular hockey is, but the question is, is it still reasonable to be doing hockey during a pandemic. People are exercising very hard, they're skating very fast, therefore they [have] fast heart rates, fast respiratory rates, and if you're getting into the boards going after that puck, you can have very, very close contact. I would be advising against that."

A sport that worked well last year, Gemmill said, was golf, given that people could be outside, distance from others or play alone.

Social bubbles can still be in effect

Gemmill was asked by media about social bubbles, and if that practice should still continue.

"That was an approach to try to keep the virus under control last summer," said Gemmill.

"I guess my advice is, I've been saying, don't gather, don't gather, and what that really means is don't gather in indoor settings, but if we can do what we did last summer by having some time, maybe on a deck with people sitting distanced from each other, that is a way to have the social interaction we want without really putting ourselves at risk. People can add masks to that if they'd like to as well."

He said it's reasonable to socialize outside, keeping distance from each other.

"People still can create bubbles if they want to, and the way it works is, it's really an agreement amongst a number who say I'm undertaking not to do these various things, not to go to a noisy bar, or not to be planning a sport that I know may be risky for coronavirus. And if those people can agree, sure, you can form your own bubbles." He said he hadn't seen any recent guidelines about how big those bubbles can be, but suggested people use "common sense" and discuss what risks they are willing to tolerate and the precautions they will take.

Booking a vaccination appointment

The health unit asks that people do not try to book a vaccination appointment through the provincial booking system if they were not born in 1946 or earlier, and do not call the health unit to book appointments. The provincial booking system is available at http://www.ontario.ca/bookvaccine or 1-888-999-6488. For more information, the health unit website is available at http://www.hkpr.on.ca.



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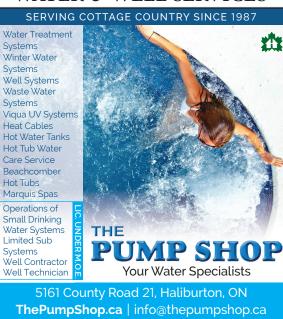
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Gordon A. Call for information Serving Haliburton explaining many of the options available to you. Funeral Home Ltd. and Victoria Counties' We can help... (705) 286-2181 We offer pre-need and at need packages for cremation, burial and memorial arrangements Family and reception centre Toll Free 1-888-588-5777 Kids play room Fax: 705-286-6661 Bereavement support, services & lending library
 Affordable cost options 127 Main St., Minden Representatives for Lons Memorials (visit our on site display) • www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



Cleaning Services Onondaga Camp, Minden, seeks 5 Staff SEASONAL (2021) Starting at \$17.00 /hr and up

We are looking for Cleaners to care for our facilities by providing a high standard of cleaning and light maintenance duties. The goal is to keep all facilities in a clean and orderly condition. Responsibilities are to clean and stock designated facility areas (disinfecting, dusting, sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, restroom cleaning etc.), carry out heavy cleansing tasks and special projects, notify management of occurring deficiencies or needs for repairs, stock and maintain supply rooms, cooperate with the rest of the staff, follow all health and safety regulations, knowledge of cleaning chemicals and supplies, familiarity with Material Safety Data Sheets.

Up to 48 hour work week Summer (6 days). Daily and Evening shifts available. (June-Sept) NO ACCOMODATION PROVIDED

Off Site Driver

Onondaga Camp, Minden, seeks 1 Staff SEASONAL (2021) \$14.50/hr

This position does not have daily set hours but is an on-call position generally between the hours of 9am-6pm and will average 6 hrs/day of work at \$14.25/hr. This role requires the candidate to live off-site and retrieve the camp vehicle from the camp on a daily basis.

Responsibilities

- Pick up prescriptions/supplies as needed for the Health Centre.
- Do a daily 'town run' to pick up supplies that are needed for camp programs or office.
- Pick up supplies in Toronto (or outside of Minden/Haliburton) as needed.
- Handling of incoming and outgoing mail.
- Ensure that vehicles are scheduled and taken for oil changes as needed.
- Ensure the vehicles have adequate gas and fill as necessary.
- Keep vehicles clean and free of garbage.
- Keep the exterior of the vehicles clean; have them washed as needed

Necessary Qualifications/Competencies

- Full G License & minimum age of 21 years old
- Ability to have a flexible schedule and work independently
- Attention to detail
- Ability to work and communicate with a wide variety of people

30 – 40 Hour work week June – September Contract NO ACCOMODATION PROVIDED

To protect the health and safety of our clients and employees, we have modified our normal operating policies in response to COVID-19.

If you wish to apply, please send a resume to Matt Brown/Site Manager at matt@ onondagacamp.com. Please feel free to contact at (705-286-5025)

A truly Canadian summer tradition, Onondaga Camp offers an extraordinary environment for kids to play, explore, achieve and grow. Situated on the shores of Middle Bob Lake near Minden, Ontario, Onondaga inspires the best in outdoor fun, learning and adventure for girls and boys from six to 16 years old. Onondaga Camp values the diversity of people. We welcome and encourage applications from people with disabilities. Arrangements will be provided, on request, to support candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. All responses will be handled with strict confidence.



























Monday, May 10,1999.

Number 1888

Candidates hit the trail

Lawnmowers

Starting at \$399

The long-awaited call to the polls was issued last Wednesday by Premier Mike Harris and local candidates were quick to get the campaigning under way. The candidates hit the ground running because it will be one of the shortest in provincial history. With

the writ issued May 5 and the vote scheduled for June 3, the campaighn will cover just 28 days.

Progressive servative nominee and incumbent, Hodgson, was on the streets of Lindsay Thursday morning, less than 24 hours after the election was called. He was talking to voters on the city's main street and spent the evening working the neighbourhoods of the largest community in the riding. The can-



Incumbent, PC Chris Hodgson.

didate also opened his Lindsay campaign office on Cambridge Street.

Sharon McCrae was out meeting voters even before the Premier had announced the long anticipated election. Wednesday she travelled to a number of communities in the riding. Once she heard the election had been called officially, she began putting up campaign signs from the supply in the trunk of her car. She was also out meeting constituents on the street and lining up her election

team. Democratic New candidate Rick Denyer, an employee at the Beer Store in



Liberal challenger Sharon McCrae.

Lindsay, had to complete his week at work before he could start serious campaigning. Friday night he completed his last day of work before beginning a leave of absence that will cover the campaign period. He planned to begin his campaign immediately,



The annual HHSS track meet met with great weather and an enthusiastic crowd Thursday.

Haliburton Realty Ltd.

Bus. 286-2882 Res.:489-1234

The bright sunshine brought many students to the side of the track to witness their fellow classmates compete and have fun in a number of track and field events. Coach Paul Morissette was pleased with the event as it ran smoothly throughout the day, and was happy to see so many students keeping fit and enjoying themselves by partaking in the HHSS track and field program.

For the fourth year in a row, Kate Campbell continued to write her

FASTER HIGHER FARTHER

HHSS students test their athletic abilities at the annual track and field meet





TOP: Nick Kulas, Jesse Sternberg and Greg Simmons round the corner in the 400 metres. MIDDLE: a pole vaulter clears the bar. **BOTTOM:** Matt Reid preapres to

(Photos and article by Kevin Brezina and Jerry Grozelle)

launch the discus.

name all over the record books, this year in the Senior Girls Division. With the 100 metres, 200 metres, and 400 metre hurdles records under her belt, Campbell now boasts over a dozen HHSS track records, and is looking forward to following up her gold medal finish at OFSAA last year with yet another record breaking season. Of course Campbell was not the only one to rewrite the record book. Liane Dron set a junior girls discus record with a toss of 31.96 metres. Cailey Sisson set a new pole vault record at 2.33 metres.

A number of boys' records changed as well. Kenny Mott set a new junior boys shot put record at 13.85 metres. Jesse Sternberg, Scot Curry, and Greg

(more on page 9)



The Spring Savings Sale 👢 April 1 to 21



Proudly owned by Dan & Emily Moulton







Gull River, West Guilford \$799,000

- Custom Built
- Open concept 3 Bed
- 240 ft frontage
- Access to 3 chain lake





64 Acres \$649,900

- Appx 2457 Ft Rd Frtg, Yr Rnd, Private
- •1287 sf, 3 Bdm, 4 pc bath, Open Concept Partially Finished Bsmt, Seasonal Sunroom
- Hardwood, Valley/Forest Views, Stream





Mink Rd. \$109,900

- Approx 1 acre, nicely forested, good privacy
 Close to public access to Long/Miskwabi Lake
- Year-round Municipal Road access Minutes to Haliburton Village



- Kushog Lake \$975,000 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom vintage log cabin
- •132 ft of waterfront on 4 acres West facing gorgeous sunsets

Sugar Island Gull Lake

• Newer septic, upgraded elec

•125 ft sand shoreline

• 2 bedroom, 615sq.ft.

•1 bdrm Bunkie,

- Clean rock shelf shore + sand beach





On The Spot Variety

- Well established main street location
- Increasing lottery commission/revenues
- Suitable for family business

Highway 35 \$999,000

Fantastic business opportunity

Great commercial lot right on highway 35

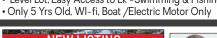
Close to new business developments





Burdock Lake Tranquility

- Relaxing Property, Escape The City Pressures
- 3 Bdrm, 2Baths All Pine, Open Kitchen DR/LR
- Level Lot, Easy Access to Lk -Swimming & Fishing







Beech River \$699.000

- · Riverfront home in a lovely setting
- Nicely updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath
- Two finished levels of living space
- Good swimming, boat into Beech Lake



Green Lake \$529,000

- •125 ft sand shoreline 2 bedroom, 615sa.ft.
- •1 bdrm Bunkie,
- Newer septic, upgraded elec





Soyers Lake \$1,750,000

- Breathtaking home on premier 5-lake chain 2500+SQ FT, open concept, 4 beds, 4 bath
- 285 FT of sand shoreline, deep off the dock
- Amazing lakeside screened in sitting room





Haliburton Multi-Rental \$395,000

- 2x2 bedrooms, 1x1 bedroom
- Hydro metered separately, parking
- Coin laundry, drilled well, muni sewer



2.3 acre lot, private, quiet setting

Seasonal road, off-grid

• Minutes to ski hill, public beach, golf

Sir Sam's Ski Area lot \$109,000











Minden Lake \$799,000

• 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1460 sf

West exposure, sand beach

 2004 build & completely updated 165 ft waterfront, 0.89 acres







Loop Road \$220,000

Food Truck and 1100+ sq.ft building with multiple uses. Good location.

·182' waterfront

Full walkout basement





• SELLING PRICES ARE UP!

- Non-waterfront up 110%*, Waterfront up 79%*
- MAKE A SHARP MOVE and List with Chris! *(Jan2020-Jan2021 The Lakelands Assoc.)



Kennisis Lake \$1,699,000

Turn-key 2,700 SF waterfront home

• Open concept, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths

• 200 + FT on peaceful Paddy's Bay

• Premium Lake boating on Kennisis









Gull River, Deep Bay Rd \$199,000

- ·145' frontage, 0.8 acres
- Year Round Municipal Road
- Southern Exposure Boat into Gull Lake or Minden





Spectacular views from 14' wall of windows









- Barry Line Rd \$149,900 Private 5+ acres, yr round rd
- Includes insulated garage, drilled well Pretty building site for home/ctge

We are open for business! Our clients' health remains our primary concern. Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients' safety. Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

CENTURY 21

Granite Realty Group Inc.

PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!

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